

**CLAIMS**

We claim:

1. A method for creating a place in collaboration space, comprising the steps of:

creating a first place; and

saving said first place as a place type template from which other places may be created in said collaboration space.

1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

2 responsive to a user selecting a create a collaboration  
3 space place action from a browser user interface,  
4 displaying a list of custom place types;

5 receiving from said user a name of a custom place type

6                   from said list, together with a name for a new place,  
7                   user name and password; and

8                   responsive to verification of said user as authorized  
9                   by user name and password, creating a new place from  
10                  said custom place type.

1       3.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

2                   organizing said collaboration space according to an  
3                   object model selectively including place, room, folder,  
4                   page, member, form, field, place type, room type, skin,  
5                   and placebo objects.

1       4.   The method of claim 3, said place type being  
2                   implemented as a directory within said room type.

1       5.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

2                   manipulating functionality provided by said place type  
3                   template to customize said collaboration space by  
4                   integrating external technology.

1       6. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

2           granting authority to an authorized user to access said  
3           place type and create a new place from said place type;  
4           and

5           responsive to a request from said authorized user,  
6           modifying said new place.

1       7. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

2           responsive to creation of said place type template from  
3           said first place, using said place type template as a  
4           custom place type for creating said other places having  
5           the format, look and feel of said first place.

1       8. The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of:

2           including membership, forms, placebots and skins  
3           defining a collaboration space place within said place  
4           type.

1       9. The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of:

2       responsive to a user what's new request, displaying at  
3       said browser changes made to said place type.

1       10. The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of:

2       updating said other place created using said place type  
3       when said place type is modified.

1       11. A method for creating a place in collaboration space,  
2       comprising the steps of:

3       creating a first place;

4       saving said first place as a place type template from  
5       which other places may be created in said collaboration  
6       space; and

7       responsive to place manager selection:

8       selectively preventing changes to look and feel of said  
9       other place by not presenting decorate options in said  
10      place type;

11      selectively displaying a description of said place  
12      type;

13      creating said new place from said place type template;

14      displaying source information for said place type  
15      template, including name and address of collaboration  
16      space place on which said place type is based;

17      selectively hide or redisplay names and descriptions of  
18      place types in said list of available place types;

19      selectively update new places created using said place  
20      type when said place type changes; and

21      selectively copying said place type from a server on  
22      which said place type was created to another server.

1      12. A collaboration space system comprising:

2 a first place;

3 a place type template created from said first place  
4 creating other places within said collaboration space.

1 13. The system of claim 12, said collaboration space being  
2 organized according to an object model selectively including  
3 place, room, folder, page, member, form, field, place type,  
4 room type, skin, and placebot objects.

1 14. The system of claim 12, further comprising:

2 a browser for manipulating functionality provided by  
3 said place type template.

1 15. The system of claim 13, further comprising:

2 a browser for manipulating functionality provided by  
3 said place type template to customize said  
4 collaboration space by integrating external technology.

1       16. The system of claim 13, said place type template being  
2       a directory containing all rooms comprising said place type  
3       template.

1       17. The system of claim 16, said place type template  
2       including membership, forms, placebots and skins.

1       18. A program storage device readable by a machine,  
2       tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a  
3       machine to perform method steps for creating a place in  
4       collaboration space, said method steps comprising:

5            creating a first place; and

6            saving said first place as a place type template from  
7            which other places may be created in said collaboration  
8            space.

1       19. The program storage device of claim 18, said method  
2       steps further comprising:

3            responsive to a user selecting a create a collaboration

4 space place action from a browser user interface,  
5 displaying a list of custom place types;

6 receiving from said user a name of a custom place type  
7 from said list, together with a name for a new place,  
8 user name and password; and

9 responsive to verification of said user as authorized  
10 by user name and password, creating a new place from  
11 said custom place type.

1 20. A computer program product or computer program element  
2 for creating a place in collaboration space by creating a  
3 first place; and saving said first place as a place type  
4 template from which other places may be created in said  
5 collaboration space.